King *William*'s

LETTERS

GULIELMUS : D : Gratiæ Angliæ, Scotiæ,
Franciæ et Hiberniæ REX Fidei Defensor

ORIGINAL LETTERS FROM King *William* III.

THEN

Prince of *ORANGE*,

TO

King *Charles* II. Lord *Arlington*, &c.

TRANSLATED.

Together with an Account of his Reception at *Middleburgh*, and his Speech upon that Occasion.

Τὸ σπάνιον τιμιόν ἐστι.
Quod carum, rarum est.

LONDON;

Printed by *W. Smith* and *G. Roydon*, for **Jonathan Robinson** at the *Golden Lion* in St. *Paul*'s Churchyard, and **Ralph Smith** at the *Bible* under the *Piazza* of the *Royal Exchange*. *Cornhil*. 1704.

LETTERS

To the LORD

WOODSTOCK.

My LORD;

WHEN I had resolv'd to communicate the following Letters to the Publick, I conceived it an apparent Injustice to Your Lordship's Ho-

 nourable

nourable Family to inſert any other Name before them.

How much Your Lorſhip's Father was valued, and how well he merited that Eſteem, by King *William*; the Honours His Majeſty conferred upon him will witneſs on one hand, and his ſteady Fidelity, conſtant Loyalty, an unalterable Affection to his Majeſty, even beyond the Grave, do abundantly convince the World on the other; Nor did his Lordſhip give larger Teſtimonies of an admirable Compoſition of Honeſty and Honour in the Late, than in the preſent

ſent Reign: His Fidelity and Loyalty are the ſame, and his Inclination no way leſs, either to her Majeſty, or to her Majeſty's moſt gracious Government.

My LORD,

Your Lordſhip has therefore as glorious and as illuſtrious an Example for your imitation, as any Nation can now boaſt of: and the timely Proofs your Lordſhip gives of a great Soul and generous Diſpoſition, ſufficiently demonſtrate how well your Lordſhip knows to make the beſt uſe of it.

The

The Duty and Regard which your Lordſhip, ſo readily, on all occaſions, expreſſeth for her Majeſty: Your Zeal and kind Wiſhes for the Honour and Proſperity of her three Kingdoms, ſhew, That you proceed in the ſame Tract of Virtue, copying out the Original, and at the ſame time verifys the General Obſervation, That a Good, give me leave, my LORD, to add, A Great Father, makes a Great and Good Son.

My

My LORD,

Your Lordſhip will find in the enſuing Letters indelible Characters of a Great and Good Prince: Great, becauſe he purſued the only true Meaſures of being ſo: And Good, becauſe his Intereſt (as he was pleas'd to expreſs it himſelf) was always inſeparable from that of his Country.

My LORD,

I have only this farther to tell your Lordſhip, with what Zeal I wiſh all Happineſs and Proſperity to your Lordſhip, and

and how much pleas'd and and proud I am of having this Opportunity offer'd to me, of declaring with what Profound Reſpect I am,

My LORD,

Your Lordſhip's moſt dutiful, obedient, and moſt faithful humble Servant,

R. Sanderſon.

THE

THE PREFACE.

SINCE ſomething is of Courſe expected by the Reader, I ſhou'd think it in reaſon might be ſufficient to tell him, That, what he reads here, are Original Letters under King William's, *then Prince of* Orange, *own Hand; which may be enough to recommend them: But beſides, they have been peruſed and approved by a Perſon of Honour, who was a faithful Witneſs of all they do contain.*

In

In general, it may be affirm'd that Memoirs of this ſort, are the beſt and moſt Authentick Hiſtory in the World; and for that reaſon, it wou'd be a moſt ſerviceable Piece of Work to the Community, for ſome Perſon to undertake a Faithful and Chronological Collection of all Letters, which are either already publiſh'd or that remain ſtill in private Hands, and tranſmit 'em ſo to Poſterity; the Advantages wou'd be many: I will only obſerve one or two, as that by this means young Gentlemen might be inſtructed better in the Stile and Language of Publick Buſineſs, and every intelligent Reader acquainted with the real Springs and true Movements of Actions, within the Compaſs of time wherein they are writ.

For want of ſuch a Methodical Digeſtion, People are commonly hurry'd into Miſtakes, by only reading a Rela-

tion

tion of Facts in General, without obſerving, what is ſo neceſſary; the concomitant Circumſtances of Time and Place.

Thus much in general; but in particular, with reference to the following Letters, there is no where to be found a more perfect Idea or Repreſentation of that Happy Genius *and Great Spirit, which was almoſt peculiar to King* William; *His vaſt Penetration into all the myſterious Proceedings of thoſe times, may be here well obſerv'd. And laſtly, his Courage and Aſſiduity in obviating whatſoever he conceived might deſtroy or oppoſe the Common Peace and Security of* Europe.

I will add no more, (tho I'm of Opinion no body will think I can enlarge too much upon this Topick) for it is not either my Inclination or Talent to recommend what will beſt recommend them-

themſelves to every impartial Reader; who may be ſatisfy'd they are Authentick and Genuine, as the Perſons by whom they are printed are able to ſatisfy the Unbelieving or Curious, by giving them the ſatisfaction of viewing the Originals, in whoſe hands they are, for that Reaſon, at preſent depoſited.

Some

Some Select

LETTERS

From his MAJESTY

King *William* III.

When he was Prince of *Orange*, to King *Charles* II. my Lord *Arlington*, &c.

To my Lord *Arlington*.

Hague, *June* 20. 1670.

My LORD;

YOU have upon all Occaſions ſhewn your ſelf ſo much my Friend, that I doubt not in the leaſt but you will be ſo in

this Buſineſs. I am reſolv'd to obey his Majeſty's Orders, and to make a Voyage into *England*; but before I undertake it, I could wiſh to be reſolv'd in a Point or two, which I dare not truſt in Writing; and therefore have ſent over the Bearer hereof, Dr. *Rompf*, to communicate it to you. I deſire you to hearken to him, and to give him a favourable Anſwer. You may intirely depend upon his Fidelity, and I aſſure you, That what you ſhall ſay to him will be the ſame as if it was ſpoke to my ſelf.

I beg therefore of your Lordſhip to give him a Favourable Diſpatch, and I ſhall own the Obligation as long as I live, it being a Buſineſs of the greateſt Conſequence in the World to me: Beſides, you ſhall find you could not oblige a Prince who will be

be more Grateful, and who will upon all Occaſions demonſtrate how much he is,

My LORD,

Your Affectionate Servant,

W. *Prince of* Orange.

Inſtructions from his Highneſs the Prince of Orange *to Dr.* Rompf, &c.

WHEREAS his Majeſty the King of *Great Britain*, has been graciouſly pleas'd to write twice to the Pr. of *Orange*, in very hearty, generous, and obliging Terms, That his Majeſty was deſirous to ſee the Perſon of the ſaid Prince in *England*; his Highneſs alſo longing very much,

and having a great Desire to wait upon his Majesty, and kiss his Majesty's Hands, is fully resolv'd, first to give notice thereof to the States General, and the States of *Holland*, as soon as they shall meet, and afterwards to undertake the Journey, with their Knowledg and Approbation, the first Opportunity, and doubts not but the said States will approve of it: Therefore his Highness thought fit beforehand so to order the Matter, That his Journey may be acceptable both to his Majesty and the States, being resolv'd to employ Dr. *Rompf* in *England* for the same purpose, and to send him there before, where he is to do as followeth:

First, He shall transport himself with all possible speed to *London*, and being arrived there, make his Addresses to my Lord *Arlington*, and no body else; and shall deliver to his Lordship

ſhip the Credential Letter, aſſuring him, That his Highneſs ſent him over on purpoſe, to acquaint his Lordſhip, with his Highneſs's Deſign of coming into *England*, and to thank his Lordſhip for the great Care, Kindneſs and Affection he always bore to the Perſon and Intereſt of his Highneſs, eſpecially in the point of the Payment of the Money; which his Highneſs hath ſo great an occaſion for at preſent, that without ſome Aſſiſtance therein, his Highneſs's Houſhold can never be maintain'd or ever be reduc'd into a good Order. That his Highneſs was credibly inform'd, and not a little pleas'd to hear, that his Lordſhip, to facilitate the ſaid Payment, firſt propos'd and counſell'd the ſaid Journey; for which Kindneſs his Highneſs owns himſelf much oblig'd to his Lordſhip.

Secondly, That ſome of his Highneſs's beſt and neareſt Friends,

made some Scruples about the said Journey, fearing it might prejudice his Highness's Interests in these Parts if it should prove ineffectual; His Highness being but of late admitted into the Council of the States, which is no great Matter, and that at present the Patriots are endeavouring to fix his Highness a little firmer: Therefore his Highness thought it fit and convenient quietly and privately to acquaint his Lordship with the said Scruples, and to beg his Lordship's Advice and Assistance therein.

The First Scruple was, That His Highness coming back from *England*, without the Payment, his Credit would be so much weakened with the States, and the Common People, that the Damage never could be repair'd.

And

And Secondly, That the Dutch Ambaſſador *Van Benningen*, being now in *England* to negotiate, by all probability, Affairs of great Moment, and it being uncertain what Iſſue they may have, the ill-affected may, in the mean time, lay all the Fault upon his Highneſs, if he ſhould be preſent then, to make him odious in theſe Parts, if the Ambaſſador ſhould not ſucceed in his Negotiation according as he deſires: Therefore his Highneſs thought it neceſſary with your Lordſhip's Leave and Favour

Upon the firſt Motion, That Means ſhould be thought upon, by which his Highneſs might be help'd, if not *in totum*, at leaſt, *pro parte*.

And upon the Second Motion, That if the Affairs were in ſuch a Condition, That his Majeſty was diſ-

pos'd to grant the Ambaſſador his Requeſt, eſpecially that concerning the *Eaſt-India* Company, that in ſuch Caſe His Highneſs could deſire and wiſh to be in *England*, That he might have an Opportunity of Recommending the ſaid Buſineſs to His Majeſty and his Miniſters, before the Ambaſſador ſhould have obtain'd his Deſpatch; to the end, that his Highneſs might afterwards give an Account to the States, what endeavours he us'd in the ſaid Affair, and what Reflections his Majeſty made thereupon. And it would not be amiſs to inſinuate to the Ambaſſador before his Highneſs's coming over, that the Preſence of the Prince of *Orange* would not contribute a little to the ſaid Buſineſs, and he ſhould do well to expect his coming over, and to uſe his Interpoſition and Sollicitation therein.

But

But if it ſhould happen that the Buſineſs which the Ambaſſador drives at, eſpecially the Point concerning the *Eaſt-India* Company, were ſo that His Majeſty could not reſolve to do any thing in it, that then, for the Reaſons above-mentioned, it were better that His Highneſs ſhould ſtay in *Holland*, till the Ambaſſador had got his Diſpatch, and was gone.

Nevertheleſs His Highneſs will expect and follow the Opinion and Advice of your Lordſhip herein, being very well ſatisfy'd that your Lordſhip according to your wonted Goodneſs and Kindneſs, which his Highneſs has had ſufficient Proofs of, will adviſe nothing but what may be for the beſt; aſſuring your Lordſhip that he will never forget to compenſate theſe Favours, with all the Gratitude imaginable.

Dr.

Dr. *Rompf* having had his Lordſhip's Opinion concerning the two above-mentioned Scruples, is to return back again with all ſpeed, and without any Delay; not diſcovering himſelf to any Body, nor to mention that he was ſent from His Highneſs.

Given at the Hague *the* 20th *of* June, 1670.

W. H. *Prince of* Orange.

To

To Sir *Gabriel Sylvius.*

From the Camp at Botegrave, Sept. 4. 1672.

I Did not receive your Letter of the 17*th* of the laſt Month, till yeſterday. I am very much concern'd to ſee you continue ſo firm to your former Reſolution, and that you will not treat upon any other Plan than what you have already ſent me: I can aſſure you I am very willing to follow the King's Inclination in all things that are in my Power, but in this it is not. I hope his Majeſty will do me the Juſtice to be intirely perſwaded that I have always that Duty and Reſpect for him which I ought, and that I can wiſh for nothing more in the World than to ſhew the Inclination I have to ſerve him. I hope his Majeſty will

will have the Goodneſs to continue me the Honour of his Favour, which I muſt deſire you will uſe your Intereſt to preſerve me: you may always aſſure your ſelf of my Friendſhip, and that I ſhall be very glad to have it in my power to ſerve you, wiſhing nothing ſo much as that you'll propoſe ſome feaſible Method to attain both our Ends, for which I pray the Eternal God from the bottom of my Heart, and remain intirely

Your's,

W. *Prince of* Orange.

King

King *Charles* to the Prince of *Orange*.

Whitehall, *Feb.* 10. 1674.

Dear Nephew;

I Have had the Thoughts, ever ſince I heard the good News of your being made *Hereditary Statholder* and *General*, to ſend you my Congratulations upon ſo conſiderable an Advantage to Your Family, and Succeſſion: But I have hitherto delay'd it, to ſee what the Succeſs would be of my Treaty with the States; which being now happily concluded, by the means of the Marquiſs *del Freſno*, I would not loſe any time in diſpatching this Bearer, Sir *Gabriel Sylvius* to you, to let you know

know withal, That, altho my own Affairs obliged me to haſten the Peace, I could not have had much Comfort or Security in it, if I had not ſeen you ſo eſtabliſh'd. I have with this Bearer alſo ſent my Ratification of the Treaty to be exchanged with that of the States; which being notified here, the Peace ſhall be immediately Proclaimed. I deſire you to give him intire Credit in thoſe things I have directed him to ſay to you, eſpecially when he ſhall tell you with what tenderneſs I love you, and how little you are to believe thoſe malicious Perſons, who may have, or ſhall ſuggeſt any thing to you contrary to this my Profeſſion, wherein methinks our Common Intereſts, as well as your nearneſs to me in Blood, ought to be an intire Security to us both, and ſufficient to juſtify, a-

bove

bove all Exceptions, the Promiſe I make you of being unalterably,

Dear Nephew,

Yours, &c.

Charles R.

To my Lord *Arlington.*

Hague, *Feb.* 28. 1674.

My LORD;

I Suppoſe you cannot be ignorant of the pain and trouble I have had to bring things to an Accommodation between his Majeſty and the States, and that towards effecting it: I have omitted no Opportunity; neither do I think it neceſſary any further to expreſs the Satisfaction I have

have in the Accompliſhment of this Peace, upon which I thought my ſelf obliged to ſend Mr. *Reede* to his Majeſty, who will give you this, and will acknowledg to you the Obligation I particularly received by your being ſo hearty in the Accompliſhment of ſo good and great a Work, as Monſieur the Marquiſs *del Freſno* has writ me Word.

I deſire you to uſe your Intereſt, that this Glorious Peace, which is but juſt now made, and which is ſo neceſſary and convenient to both Nations, may continue firm and unmoveable: To which I will contribute on my Part what lies in my Power, as well as upon all Occaſions to aſſure you how much I am,

My LORD,

Your moſt Affectionate Servant,

W. *Prince of* Orange.

To

To the King of *England.*

From the Camp at Dusfel, May 25. 1674.

SIR,

I Have received both the Letters you was pleaſed to Honour me with, and I had ſooner returned you my moſt humble Thanks, if my haſty departure from the *Hague*, together with the great Hurry I was in for the firſt days of my March, had not prevented it. After paying my humble Thanks to your Majeſty, for the New Marks of your Friendſhip, which you were pleas'd to ſhew me in your Letters, you muſt give me leave ingenuouſly to Own, that I am not a little concerned at the Refuſal your Majeſty has hitherto made me, of raiſing Troops in your Kingdoms, and that at a time

when ſo many Reaſons made me deſire it. As for the Engagements your Majeſty has with *France*, I know none that are contrary to the Intereſt of the States, much leſs to my Own in particular, which you have not declared againſt by the Peace which hath been ſo happily concluded: And if your Majeſty will give your ſelf the trouble well to conſider the Secret Article which has been ſo often mentioned, you will plainly ſee, that you are ſo far from having any Right or Liberty reſerved, to act any thing to our Prejudice, in Favour of *France*, That your Majeſty has granted us great Advantages over our Enemy, and has put it in our Power to demand thoſe Troops to be recalled, which are in the Service of his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, which is contrary to the Licenſe which hath been given the Commanders of thoſe Troops

to raiſe Recruits in ſome of your Majeſty's Kingdoms, whilſt the ſame thing is denied us, as well as making New Levies, altho there appears no Treaty between your Majeſty and *France*, which deprives us of that Liberty: And beſides, the tenderneſs which your Majeſty expreſſed towards me, hath given me occaſion to promiſe my ſelf the ſame. I hope your Majeſty will be pleaſed to reflect upon what I have taken the liberty to repreſent here, And that your Majeſty will defer no longer to Grant me this now which you gave me hopes you would do another time. In the mean while I beg your Majeſty to believe that I am with a moſt Profound Reſpect,

SIR,

Your Majeſty's moſt humble, and moſt obedient Nephew and Servant,

W. *Pr. of* Orange.

PS.

I Entertained for ſome time your Majeſty's Ambaſſadors which came from *Cologn* as they paſſed by the *Hague* with what related to the Peace, and have nothing to add to what I ſaid to them, which I don't doubt but they have given your Majeſty an account of, but to deſire you to reflect ſeriouſly thereupon.

If I thought your Majeſty was deſirous to know what paſſes here this Campaign, I would not fail to give you an exact Account; but as I am as yet ignorant how your Majeſty is affected to the Intereſt in which I am engaged, I will expect your Orders therein before I undertake it.

To

To my Lord *Arlington.*

From the Camp near St. Gilain, Aug. 20. 1674.

My LORD;

I Can't let Monſieur *Sylvius* part without taking this Opportunity to aſſure you of my Reſpects, and to deſire you to continue me your Friendſhip: He will inform you how Affairs ſtand here, and with what impatience I ſhall expect his Majeſty's Reſolutions thereupon. In the mean while I beg you to believe me always,

My LORD,

Your moſt Affectionate Servant,

W. *Prince of* Orange.

To Sir *Gabriel Sylvius.*

From the Camp at Quiverain, Sept. 1. 1674.

I Am very much oblig'd to you for communicating to me my Lord *Arlington*'s Letter, which I return you here inclos'd, begging you to re-aſſure him of my Friendſhip, and the deſire I have to ſerve him, and how much I ſhall own my ſelf obliged to him if he will be pleas'd to place me right in his Majeſty's good Opinion. I ſhall alſo think my ſelf not a little obliged to your ſelf, if you will believe me your Friend, and one that is very deſirous to ſerve you,

W. *Prince of* Orange.

To

To my Lord *Arlington.*

From the Camp at Quiverain, Sept. 10. 1674.

My LORD;

YOU have ſo obligingly aſſur'd me of the Zeal you have for whatever concerns me, that I look upon my ſelf bound to ſend you this Acknowledgment of it; I have little deſerv'd the Praiſes you give me, and could wiſh my ſelf ſo happy as to have it in my Power to ſerve you, and I would do it with all the Satisfaction imaginable. I ſhall alſo be very much oblig'd to you, if you will be pleas'd to place me in his Majeſty's good Opinion, which

is the thing in the World I desire most, as well as to let you know how much I am,

My LORD,

Your most Affectionate Servant.

W. *Prince of* Orange.

To my Lord *Arlington.*

From the Camp at Quiverain, Sept. 15. 1674.

My LORD;

I Receiv'd what your Lordship was pleas'd to write to me, and am very glad you have given me an Opportunity to demonstrate how agreeable your Recommendation was to me; and also, tho the manner in which Monsieur *Blaigny* came into the

the heart of the Country, in the heat of the War, after having viſited our Fortreſſes under the Umbrage of the *Swediſh* Ambaſſador, which he denies, deſerves any thing beſides his Enlargement: For that in ſtrictneſs he ought to expect what the Laws decrees againſt Enemies who take up borrow'd Shapes, and run the hazard of coming under Characters different to what in reality they have: Nevertheleſs, ſince you Intereſt your ſelf ſo much in his Favour, and deſire his Liberty, I promiſe You to uſe my utmoſt Endeavour to have him exchang'd for ſome of Our Priſoners of War which the *French* took in the laſt Battle; and I believe, conſidering the great difference there is between their Priſon, the leaſt I can demand, is, to make an Exchange for Monſieur *le Comte de Solins*, Colonel of my

my Guards, and the Sieur *de Croneman* his Lieutenant-Colonel; both which may be releas'd by paying the Ranſom which was agreed upon by the *French* before the Campain. I don't doubt but you will own that what I propoſe is very reaſonable; and ſince you ſo much eſpouſe the liberty and preſervation of Monſieur *de Blaigny*, you will uſe your Credit with the Court of *France*, and let them know how much it is their Intereſt to ſave a Brigadier, and a Priſoner of State, and that they do agree to exchange him for two Priſoners of War.

But before I conclude, I muſt thank you for the Kindneſs you expreſs to have for me, and altho I have done nothing but what comes vaſtly ſhort of what I could have wiſh'd, I am ne're the leſs oblig'd to you for the Marks of

your Affection, and I desire you
believe that there is no Body more
ncerely Yours than,

Your humble Servant,

W. *Prince of* Orange.

---

lis Highness the Pr. of *Orange*, to the King of *England*.

Hague, *Jan.* 11. 1674.

SIR,

WHAT your Majesty had the Goodness to order the Earls f *Ossory* and *Arlington* to say to me n your Part I could not hear but ith abundance of Joy, as also the redential Letter which they deli-er'd me upon the Subject of the riendship and Esteem your Majesty ouchsafed to shew me, and the de-

sire

ſire you had that all Miſunderſtand
ings which might have happen'd dur
ing the laſt War might be forgot fo
ever. I aſſur'd them on my Part
would contribute what lay in m
power towards it, and that it ſhoul
be my greateſt care to preſerve tha
Friendſhip your Majeſty had don
me the Favour to aſſure me of, an
that I would neither ſpare Life no
Fortune to deſerve it. Moreover,
have promis'd the Earls of *Offor*
and *Arlington*, that I am and wi
always be ready to acquaint you
Majeſty with all I can learn of th
ill Practices and ſiniſter Deſigns you
Enemies may have againſt your Per
ſon, or the Quiet and Repoſe of you
Kingdoms: At preſent I can aſſur
your Majeſty I know none: but i
I can learn any thing for the future
I will not fail immediately to giv
you an exact Account: In return,
beg your Majeſty will do me the Fa
you

our to ſhew ſome real Marks of our Friendſhip not only to me, ut the *States General*, whoſe In-ereſts and mine are at preſent In-eparable; upon which ſubject I have xplain'd my ſelf more at large to he Earls, who without doubt will ive your Majeſty a faithful Account f all what paſs'd in the Conferen-es which I had with them, having n intire Confidence in their Per-ons. I alſo return your Majeſty ny humble Acknowledgments for he Choice you was pleas'd to make preferable to all others, being Per-ons moſt proper and capable to eſtabliſh not only a ſincere, but a irm and indiſſoluble Intelligence (as your Majeſty deſires) in your Royal Family. I could earneſtly have wiſh'd in Perſon to have aſſur'd your Majeſty of all theſe Proteſtations, and that it is in your Majeſty's Power to make Peace, or let the War

War continue amongſt the Partie
engaged: All which I beg your Ma
jeſty intirely to believe, and tha
I am and will be all my Life with
moſt Profound Reſpect,

SIR,

Your Majeſty's moſt humble, an
moſt obedient Nephew an
Servant,

W. *Prince of* Orange

Zuyleſtein, *Feb.* 3. 1675.

NOT being at the *Hague*, i
was impoſſible to anſwe
thoſe Letters you writ me, ſo exactl
as I could wiſh.

I have alſo receiv'd your tw
Letters of the 22*d* and 28*th* of th
laſt Month, by which I was glad t
under-

underſtand you had a happy Voyage, and that his Majeſty was pleas'd with the Letter I had the Honour to write to him, tho I can't but wonder at what you tell me that the States and my Self are in poſſeſſion of ſome Overtures touching the Peace from his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty: I can aſſure you, That we know nothing of it. And as for my Self in particular, I will hearken to nothing, before the Party in which I am engag'd agrees to it. And I ſhall take the liberty to inform his Majeſty of my particular Intereſts; not doubting but his Majeſty will be ſo kind as to take care of them. I can't ſee that the Advantages Monſieur *de Turenne* has had in *Germany*, can hinder the Allies from having as good Conditions for the Peace as otherwiſe they might have had, ſince the Advantage is not ſo great as is imagin'd, at leaſt they have loſt

nothing

nothing but the Aſſurance of doing the *French* ſome Miſchief, which 'tis hoped they may do the next Campain, if the War continues; which for my part I don't deſire, but will always be willing to uſe my utmoſt Endeavours with the Allies to perſwade them to accept Conditions of Peace, ſuch as are reaſonable and honeſt. But I muſt obſerve, That you have not ſatisfy'd me in your Anſwer to the Demand which I made, Whether the King will aſſiſt *Sweden*? ſeeing you only tell me, That there are no Preparations made for it; but not if there will be any. And ſince you have let me know that my Freedom is not diſagreeable, I hope that this new Inſtance, which I make to be further inform'd in this Affair, may not be ſo neither.

W. *Prince of* Orange.

To

To Sir *William Temple.*

Arnheim, *Feb.* 18. 1675.

SIR,

IT was yesterday before I received yours of the 13*th*, by which I'm infinitely concern'd to understand that the *French* have refused *Meurs* for the Place of Congress; whereby the World must be convinced, that their Inclination for Peace is no more than an outward Appearance without any real Effect.

I don't believe the States, and much less their Allies, will accept the Town of *Arnheim* or *Nimeguen*, since the Reasons are the same they should refuse these two Places, as they were not to accept *Breda*. I won't repeat the said Rea-

ſons to you, becauſe the Penſionary and I have entertain'd you ſo often on that Subject. I don't know what the States will reſolve in this Affair, but without doubt they will ſtand to the Propoſition they have made of ſome Town in *Switzerland*: But to ſhew you how deſirous I am that the Buſineſs of the Peace ſhould go forward, and to let all the World ſee, that *France* is not inclin'd to it, at leaſt ſuch a one as may conſiſt with our Honour to accept; I hope I ſhall perſwade the States and their Allies unanimouſly to agree upon the Town of *Grol*, which is in the Province of *Gelderland*, and eight miles from hence, for the Place of Congreſs: Or elſe the Town of *Sluice* in *Flanders* which belongs to the States. There is in like manner another Town which I might alſo propoſe, which is indeed under the Empire, but ſtands more inclin'd to the In-

tere

tereſt of the K. of *France* than that of the Empire; which is *Leige*: which without doubt will be very proper for ſuch an Aſſembly. After all, I can ſee no other than theſe three Places, if it be not *Swiſſerland*, that the Parties engaged can agree upon. If his Majeſty likes this Propoſition, I will do my utmoſt Endeavour to bring the States and their Allies to it: Upon which I ſhall with impatience expect your Anſwer. In the mean while I deſire you to believe me ever,

Your moſt Affectionate Servant,

W. *Prince of* Orange.

To my Lord *Arlington.*

Arnheim, *Feb.* 20. 1675.

I Was very ſorry to hear by your Letter of the 12*th* of this Month, That you gave your ſelf the trouble to write to me, that you was indiſpos'd. I hope this will find you upon your Leggs again, and that Monſieur *de Ruvigny* has made ſome good Propoſitions of Peace, which I am impatient to know, and deſire you to ſend, the firſt Opportunity. I can aſſure you I am of the ſame Opinion you left me in, and very well pleas'd to hear that the King will not aſſiſt *Sweden*, but much troubled that People take pleaſure in writing you Lies from hence. I have not taken Monſieur *de Moulin* again into my Service; but it is true that

that I have talk'd with him ſince your Departure from hence, which I was oblig'd to do in order to adjuſt ſome Affairs, and to recover ſome Papers he had in his hands when he was with me, before you came hither. I deſire you to aſſure your ſelf that I will keep my word in what I promis'd on that account, as well as all other; but particularly I will endeavour upon all occaſions to let you know how much I am,

Your moſt Affectionate Servant,

W. *Prince of* Orange.

To Sir *Gabriel Sylvius.*

Hague, *March* 15. 1675.

YOur laſt Letter was of the 6*th* of this Month, by which I can't without wonder underſtand that it is taken ill I have not paid my Compliment to the Duke upon the Birth of his Daughter. I can aſſure you they no ſooner let me know it, which was immediately after ſhe was born, but I writ by the firſt Poſt that went away to wiſh him Joy; and the Lord Treaſurer had no ſooner let me know his Majeſty's Kindneſs in aſſigning me my Debt here, but I writ to the King to return him my moſt humble Acknowledgments and ſent the Letter to the Lord Treaſurer, becauſe it was he that gave me the firſt notice of his Ma-

jeſty

jeſty's favourable Reſolution. I have alſo writ to his Majeſty, to thank him that he would concern himſelf in the Affair of *Gelderland*. You may ſee by this true Narration, what Pleaſure my Enemies take to find out falſe Reports to blame my Conduct, which makes them tell ſuch Stories, for which there is no other Remedy but Patience.

W. *Prince of* Orange.

To my Lord *Arlington.*

From the Camp at Dusfle, *June*, 1675.

My LORD;

I Was very much pleas'd to ſee by your Letter of the 17*th* of the laſt Month, which I receiv'd but three days ago, that our Quarrel is at an end: I can aſſure you it is no ſmall Satisfaction to me, and I hope that nothing for the future may interrupt that Friendſhip we have mutually promis'd each other. For my part, I will endeavour to let you ſee that I wiſh nothing ſo much as to have frequent Opportunities of effectually demonſtrating how ſincerely I am,

My LORD;

Your moſt Affectionate Servant,

W. *Prince of* Orange.

PS.

PS.

I Desire you that our Compliments may end with our Quarrel, and when you will give your ſelf the trouble to write, to ſend them to *Bulſtrode* at *Bruſſels*, who will take care to convey them to me ſooner than by the *Hague*.

To

To my Lord *Arlington.*

From the Camp at Laiſan, Sept. 26. 1675.

My LORD;

IT is no ſmall Pleaſure to me to find, by what you gave your ſelf the trouble to write to me, that I am ſtill in your Mind, and that you find your ſelf better of the Gout. I ſhould not have omitted Writing to you all this while, if any thing had happen'd here worth the ſending: But as we have been all this Summer diverting the Enemies Grand Army in order to make room for the Allies to act, and all that we could do, we could not oblige the Enemies to come to a pitch'd Battle, being always ſo advantagiouſly poſted, that 'twas impoſſible to attack them; ſo we have been

been oblig'd to be the Spectators and ſee the Armies of our Allies act. I hope nevertheleſs, before the Campain is ended we may do ſomething, and afterward uſe our beſt Endeavours for the advancing of a good Peace; in which I wiſh with all my heart you may be employ'd, hoping thereby to have the Honour to ſee you, and aſſure you my ſelf how much I am,

Yours,

W. *Prince of* Orange.

To

To my Lord *Arlington.*

Hague, *Nov.* 22. 1675.

I Have hitherto delay'd anſwering the laſt Letter you gave your ſelf the trouble to write to me, becauſe I daily expected Monſieur *Sylvius*'s Arrival, as you writ me word: But ſeeing he did not come, I can defer no longer to aſſure you of my Reſpects, and to deſire the Reaſon why his Voyage is retarded ſo long; and being in doubt whether he will come or no, I will expect your Anſwer before I ſhall ſay any thing to you in relation to the Peace, which I think may be to his Majeſty's Satisfaction, and that I may have a great many Opportunities to ſhew you effectually how much I am,

Yours,

W. *Prince of* Orange.

To

To my Lord *Arlington.*

Hague, *April* 10. 1676.

I Can't let Monſieur *Sylvius* part without renewing to you the Aſſurances of my Reſpects. The Bearer will tell you all what has paſt here, and in what Condition he left Affairs. Being juſt going to take horſe to go to the Rendevouze of the Army, I hope you will pardon me that I add no more to this than to aſſure you, there is no Perſon in the World more your Servant than,

W. *Prince of* Orange.

To

To my Lord *Arlington*,
By Monſieur *Bentinck*.

Lokeren, *June* 9. 1677.

NOT long ago I found by one of your Letters to *Overkerk*, that ſome body has given you ſome very unjuſt Reports of Me; which has obliged me to ſend Monſieur *Bentinck* expreſly to diſabuſe you, and to aſſure You from Me to the contrary, being moſt ſincerely your Servant, and deſiring you to continue me in your Friendſhip, which I will endeavour to deſerve by ſhewing you on all occaſions that I am intirely,

Yours,

W. *Prince of* Orange.

To

To my Lord *Arlington.*

Lokeren, *June* 25. 1677.

NEver was Man ſent back ſo well pleas'd with the Honours and Civilities you did him, ſo that I don't know how he will reconcile himſelf to his old way of living. I muſt own my ſelf very much oblig'd to you, but eſpecially for the good Offices you have done me to the King; I can aſſure you, that the thing I moſt paſſionately deſire in the World, is to be uſeful to him: For my part, I will never fail effectually to demonſtrate it, as alſo how much I eſteem your Friendſhip, and with what Truth I am Yours intirely,

W. *Prince of* Orange.

His

His Highneſs the Prince of *Orange*'s Letter to the *States*.

From the Camp near Sombref, Aug. 15. 1677.

Noble and Mighty Lords, ſingular good Friends;

ACcording as the Advices informed Us, which We made known to You by Our Laſt of the 9*th* Inſtant, the Enemy paſſed the *Sombref* at *la Buſſiere*, in the Night between 8 and 9, and encamped on the other ſide of a Wood, lying between Him and Us, his Right Wing reaching to the Villages of *Arcos* and *Gerpaine*, and the left near to *Seneff*, where having poſted himſelf, and ſome Advices being brought Us, as if he intended to attack Us, We gave the neceſſary Orders to expect him,

him, and having gone the next day to diſcover his Encampment, we found that having placed his aforeſaid Right Wing by a Wood, he had beſides before him a Brook, which according to the informations of People knowing the Country, was not to be paſſed but by Defiles; we obſerved at the ſame time that there was an Opening, through which the Eenemies Left Wing might in ſome manner be approached, as reaching beyond the Spring of the ſaid Brook: But that to Attack the ſame, it was neceſſary to paſs a Wood thro' a Defile, where not above two Squadrons could march in Front; at the end of which Defile or Narrow, there was a conſiderable Hill, upon which the Enemy had his Guards, and would undoubtedly have endeavoured to have maintained it: Neither was there any paſſing about the ſaid

Hill, becauſe of another Brook which took its Riſe from it.

The Enemy then being ſo near our Camp, and ſo advantagiouſly poſted, it was indeed generally judged the Siege of *Charleroy* could not be continued, without obliging him to diſlodg from thence, becauſe that remaining in the aforeſaid Poſt, he abſolutely hindered us from foraging between the *Sambre* and *Meaſe*, without which the Horſe could not poſſibly ſubſiſt; and that by going with Detachments on the *Sambre*, he could cut off or much annoy the Convoys going between *Bruſſels* and the Camp. But after the aforeſaid Diſpoſition and Situation were exactly diſcovered, there aroſe a Debate, Whether it was ſerviceable, adviſeable, and poſſible to Attack the Enemy, lying as has been ſaid within this Advantage? It was main-

maintained by ſome that the Attack was to be hazarded, tho without ſolving the Difficulties which made it ſufficiently impracticable; and by others, that by undertaking thereof, conſidering the aforeſaid Advantages, a Defeat was to be feared in the higheſt manner, without any appearance of Succeſs; which being by us conſidered, as well in reſpect of the aforeſaid advantagious Poſt poſſeſſed by the Enemy, as by reaſon of great Detachments which we ſhould be forced to make, for the ſecuring our Artillery and Baggage; and that in caſe of a Defeat, there ſeemed not to remain the leaſt hope of a Retreat; except poſſible for ſome few: Becauſe then all the Paſſages and Shallows of the *Sambre* would have been watch'd by thoſe of *Charleroy*. We judg'd it better to ſuffer ſomething in point of Reputation, than to bring the

Army of the State into evident Danger, with little or no probable hopes of Succeſs. We marched thereupon yeſterday off from *Charleroy*, and came and encamped here, having ſince ſent away the Artillery towards *Bruſſels*, and ſent back likewiſe the Baggage of the Army.

W. *Prince of* Orange.

To

To my Lord *Arlington.*

From the Camp at Soignes, Sept. 20. 1677.

SINCE his Majeſty has been pleas'd to give me leave to make a Tour into *England*, I hope quickly to have the Honour of ſeeing you there, and to diſpel thoſe Impreſſions, as my Lord *Oſſory* tells me, ſome People have made upon you, That I was not ſo much your Friend and Servant as I always have been. It will not be long before I ſhall have an Opportunity to aſſure you to the contrary by word of mouth, deſiring you to continue me ſtill in your Friendſhip, and to be aſſured that I am intirely

Your's,

W. *Pr. of* Orange.

A Letter wherein is related what paſſed the 18th *of* September, *at the Reception of his Highneſs the Prince of* Orange *at* Middleburgh.

Moſt Illuſtrious and High-born Lady;

I Take the boldneſs, in all humility, to inform your Highneſs of what has paſſed here.

About half an hour paſt twelve, His Highneſs's Hooffmaſter came where the States of *Zealand* were aſſembled, and there with due Compliments acquainted them of his Highneſs's Arrival; whereupon he was deſired to withdraw, which he did for about a quarter of an hour:

And being come in again, the Secretary, in the name of the States of that place, acquainted him that they

they were very glad of the coming of the Prince, and that he ſhould be received with all due Reſpect and Kindneſs.

The States of *Middleburgh* immediately afterwards reſolved that his Highneſs ſhould be received with all poſſible Reſpect, and that all the Trained Bands ſhould be in Arms, and every one was extream glad at the coming of his Highneſs; except ſome who we may well ſuppoſe had rather have ſeen ſomething elſe: But ſeeing the thing ſo well encouraged, durſt ſay nothing.

About an hour after I came with the Heer *Odyche*, and his Highneſs's Hooffmaſter, to the Caſtle of *Rammekens*, to expect an Anſwer after what manner we were beſt to come.

We ſtaid there about two hours, that the Citizens might have time to put themſelves in Arms and Order.

There lay a great Company of Ships about *Rammekens*, as well men of War, as *East India* Traders, who all fired round; and we from the Shore answered them with our little Guns that we had on board the States Yatchs: and among the Seamen was all the Joy imaginable.

When we came near the Haven, and had passed the Point, we fired five or six times over to give notice of the Prince's coming.

The Secretary came first to salute his Highness in his Yatch in the name of the States.

After him came the Lords of *Middleburgh*, about seven or eight in all, with their Pensionaries.

Their Compliments being made, his Highness was conducted out of the Yatch into a Coach with 6 Horses, accompanied with many Lords, and followed with a great Train of Coaches, with six, four, and two Horses,

Horſes, paſſing by the Trained Bands, who were ranged on either ſide, and great Shooting in the Abby where his Highneſs had formerly lodged, and now was prepared for him.

His Highneſs was entertained there about a quarter of an Hour by the States of *Middleburgh*, who afterwards took their leave.

A while after came the States in a Body to bid his Highneſs welcome, and each accompanied with their Penſionaries, who in their names made an Excellent Speech, full of great Expreſſions of Joy and Gladneſs.

When they went away, came they of the State, with their Secretary *Huybert*, repeating again their Compliments. The Heer *Staveniſſe van Zierichzee*, and the Heer *van Kruymingen* were not there.

After

After them came the Lords of the Admiralty, whose Secretary made a Speech in their Names.

After them the Lords of the State of *Flanders*, and the States of *Walcheren*, as also the Clergy.

'Tis not to be imagined the infinite Company of People that came from all quarters, the Streets were filled in all Places, the Windows black with People, the Trees and Masts loaded; every one expressing his Joy in all ways imaginable.

There was no coming near the Abby for the great Press of People, and Coaches full of Ladies and Gentlemen to see the Prince.

The Burghers never left shooting for 2 hours that he lay out of the Window:

And besides all, there came sundry particular Lords, and the chiefest of the Burgers to welcome his Highness.

It

It would be too long to tell you every particular Paſſage of each Man's Satisfaction.

This night, there being great Shooting at every corner of the Street; which, I believe, will continue all night, it being now juſt ten a Clock.

The Burgers pretend to have known of this before, and that other things ſhould have been done in order hereunto; but in a ſhort time all will go well.

To morrow I ſhall inform your Highneſs what other buſineſs ſhall then happen as to the Buſineſs of the Firſt Nobleman; but I cannot yet learn that any difficulty will be therein, or that any will oppoſe it, for that all things go according to wiſh, and there is no doubt but to morrow it will have its full Succeſs.

To morrow I ſhall ſpeak with his Highneſs about the Adjouring the Com-

Commiſſions, wherein nothing further is done as yet; and therein I ſhall do my utmoſt Endeavour.

Many by this Work will be ſuppreſt: namely, thoſe who were of other Opinions; thereof *Ter-Veer* ſeems deſperate.

We may perceive their Joy in the very Eyes of the Well-affected, and the dejectedneſs of the other, and how each of them expreſs themſelves.

By 5 a Clock in the morning you ſhall have an Account from me.

So moſt Excellent Princeſs, I pray the Almighty grant you long Health, and have your Highneſs in his Keeping.

Middleburgh,
Sept. 18. 1668.
11 *at Night.*

His

His Highneſs the Prince of Orange's *Speech to the Noble and Puiſſant Lords, the Eſtates of* Zealand *in* Middleburgh, Sept. 19. 1668.

Noble and Puiſſant Lords;

WE could not defer any longer preſenting Our Self, together with Our Service, to your Puiſſant Lordſhips; and in particular to thank you for the Honour, Favour and Affection, which, upon all occaſions, your Puiſſant Lordſhips have hitherto been pleas'd in ſo ample a manner to demonſtrate to us: And yet more particularly for that you have confer'd upon Us, the Quality

Quality of Firſt Nobleman, as a Character whereby Our moſt Illuſtrious Predeceſſors have always been diſtinguiſh'd in this Province, purſuant to an Act of your Puiſſant Lordſhips, the *7th* of *Auguſt*, 1660. which your Puiſſant Lordſhips have declared not only as an Earneſt of your Love and Affection, within the limits of your Province, but have actually affected as an undeniable Argument of that general Inclination which We have had the happineſs to obſerve both towards Our Self, Our Family, and the reſt of the Provinces.

Your Puiſſant Lordſhips having had the Goodneſs by a ſingular Affection, to coutinue this favour at all times to Us, and alſo to ſignify to Us lately in the year 1666, your hearty Wiſhes that the

the time was expired, which was required to qualify Us for the acting as Firſt Nobleman: And now conſidering that the aforeſaid term of years is fully accompliſh'd, in that your Puiſſant Lordſhips thought fit, That 18 years were ſufficient to qualify Us for the ſame, and we now are entring upon Our 19*th* year; We ſhou'd conceive Our Self wanting in a due Correſpondence both to your Deſires and Intentions, if we had delaid any longer coming to accept and injoy the Poſſeſſion of that, whereby your Puiſſant Lordſhips have been pleas'd obligingly to give Us ſuch ſtrong Teſtimonies of your ſteady Affection to Our Perſon.

This, I muſt confeſs, is the Reaſon which induced me, Puiſſant Lords, to appear in this Noble Aſſembly; that I might, with all due acknow-

acknowledgment, teſtify my readineſs to take upon Me the Quality of Firſt Nobleman; and at the ſame time that, by Our Deputies, which we ſhall name afterwards, according the aforeſaid Decree of your Puiſſant Lordſhips, the 7*th* of *Aug.* 16660. we will take care that it ſhall be duly executed at once, to the greateſt Honour and Advantage, for the glorious Government of this Province, and the mutual Harmony of every Member thereof. And moreover, that to Our utmoſt Power, We will preſerve and improve a Correſpondence ſo neceſſary with all the Members in general, and particularly with *Holland* and *Weſt-Friezland*, which have always maintain'd a particular Union and Concord with your Puiſſant Lordſhips.

And

And beſides, We do aſſure You, That with all the Zeal and Sincerity in the World, We will imploy Our beſt Endeavours, whereby we may be moſt ſerviceable to your Puiſſant Lordſhips, and that in like manner We will follow the ſame Meaſures of Our Auguſt Anceſtors, who contributed towards the laying the Foundation of this Glorious Republick, and who have at all times acted for Liberty and Religion; adding to this Our great Inclinaton, which of Our own proper Movement we have in all Matters to oblige your Puiſſant Lordſhips.

But, to conclude, we do aſſure you that it ſhall be our conſtant care to acqaint Our Self throughly, with the true Foundation and Maxims of the Glorious Government of your Puiſſant Lordſhips, that we may thereby render them more proper for the

Advancement of its Prosperity and Interests: Praying the Great God, with all Our Heart, to continue and multiply, by his Mercy, his Blessings upon your Glorious Government.

Your Puissant Lordships

Affectionate Servant,

W. *Prince of* Orange.

DES

LETTRES

Eſlites du

Roy Guiliaume III.

Alors Prince d'Orange, au Roy Charles II. & à Milord Arlington, &c.

A Milord Arlington.

De la Haye le 20 Juin, 1670.

Monſieur,

VOUS avez toujours tant témoigné d'être de mes amis, que je ne doute pas que vous ne le ſoyiez en cette rencon-

tre. Ayant reſolu de faire le Voyage d'Angleterre, pour obir aux Ordres de ſa Majeſté, & devant que de l'entre prendre, ſouhaitant d'être un peu eclairci ſur un point ou deux que je ne puis fier au Papier, J'ay reſolu de vous envoyer le porteur de celleicy le Dr. Rompf, pour vous le communiquer. Je vous prie de l'écouter, & de luy donner uue favorable Réponſe. Vous pouvez abſolument vous fier à ſa fidelité, & je vous aſſure, qu'il n' y'aura que moy ſeul qui ſauray ce que vous luy direz.

Je vous ſupplie donc Monſieur, de luy donner une favorable Expedition, & je vous en aurai toute ma vie la derniere obligation, comme eſtant l'affaire du monde, qui m'eſt de la plus grande Conſequence; & vous trouverez que vous ne pourrez jamais obliger un Prince qui en ſera plus recon-

reconnoissant, & qui vous fera voir en toutes occasions ave quelle passion il est,

Monsieur,

Vôtre tres Affectionné Serviteur,

G. Prince d' Orange.

Au Chevalier Gab. Sylvius.

Au Camp de Botegrave, Sept. 4. 1672.

JE ne receu vôtre Lettre, du 27 du mois passé qu' avant hier, je suis tres marri de voir que l' on demeure ferme dans la Resolution que l' on a prisé de ne vouloir traiter que sur le Plan que l'on m'a envoyé. Je vous puis asseurer que je serai tres aise de suivre l' Inclination du Roy en toute chose quand il sera en mon pouvoir, mais cette affaire icy ne l' est pas. J' espere que sa Majesté me fera la Justice d'en être entierement persuadée que j' aurai toujours pour Elle tout le respect & toute l' obeisance que je luy dois, & que je ne souhaite rien tant au monde, que de luy pouvoir têmoigner l' Inclination que j' ay pour son service.

ſervice. J'éſpere que ſa Majeſté aura auſſi la bonté de me continuer un peu de part en l' honneur de ſes bonnes graces. Je vous prie de faire vôtre mieux pour me la conſerver, & d' être aſſuré que je ſeray toujours fort de vos amis, & tres aiſe de vous pouvoir ſervir, & que je ne ſonhaite rien tant que de vous voir propoſer des moyens faiſables pour venir à vôtre but & au mien; dequoy je prie l' Eternel du profond de mon coeur, & demeure entierement a Vous

G. Prince d' Orange.

A Milord Arlington.

A la Haye le 28 Feb 1674.

Monsieur,

COmme je me flatte, que vous étez entierement persuadé que jay toujours taché & travaillé pour rétablir la bonne Intelligence entre sa Majesté & les Estats: & que pour cét effet je n'ay negligé aucune occasion. Je m'assure aussi, qu'il ne sera pas necessarie de vous exprimer par beaucoup de paroles ma parfaite Joye de l'hereux accomplissement du Traité de Paix, sur quoy J'ay creu être obligé d'envoyer a sa Majesté Monsieur de Reede lequel vous rendra cellecy, & vous témoignera de ma part l'obligation, que je vous ay d'avoir tant travaillé a l'accomplissement d'un si bon & grand

grand Ouvrage ſelon que Monſieur le Marquis del Freſno m'a écrit:

„Je vous prie de continuer a entremêtre vôtre puiſſant credit, afin que cette heureuſe Paix, qui vient d'être conclue, & qui eſt ſi neceſſaire, & utile aux deux Nations, puiſſe être ferme & inebranlable, à quoy Je contribueray de mon côte en tout ce qui ſera en mon pouvoir; & auſſi a vous faire voir en toutes occaſions combien je ſuis,

Monſieur,

Vôtre tres Affectioné Serviteur,

G. Prince d'Orange.

A ſa Majeſté Britannique.

Au Camp de Dutfel 20 Mey 1674.

Sire,

J'AY receu les deux Lettres que votre Majeſté m'a fait l'honneur de m'écrire, & je luy en aurois plutôt rendu mes tres humbles Graces ſans la precipitation avec laquelle le parti J'ay de la Haye, & l'embaras où je me ſuis trouvé dans les premiers jours de ma marche. Preſentement, aprés avoir témoigné ma reconnoiſſance à V. M. de nouvelles marques d'amitié qu'elle a eu la bonté de me témoigner dans ſes Lettres, Elle me permettra de luy avouer ingenûment, que Je ne puis me conſoler du refus qu'elle a fait juſqu'icy de m'accorder des Levees dans ſes Royaumes, & cela dans un tems

ou

en tant de raisons me le faisoient souhaiter ; car pour ce qui est des engagemens où V. M. se trouve avec la France, je n'en sache point de contraires aux Interêts des Etats bien moins aux miens en particulier, auquel elle n'ait renoncé par la Paix qui a été si heureusement conclue : & si V. M. veut se donner la peine de bien considerer l'Article secret dont on a souvent fait mention, Elle verra clairement, que bien loin de s'être reservé le droit, & la liberté d'agir à nôtre prejudice en faveur de la France, Elle nous a accordé de grands Avantages au dessus de nos Ennemis, & nous a mêmes mis en droit de demander le rappel des Troupes qui sont au service du Roy tres Chrêtien, ce qui est bien opposé à la permission qui a été donné aux Officiers, qui commandent ces Troupes, de faire des recrues dans quelques uns des Royaumes de V. M.

cepen

cependant que l'on nous refuſe la même choſe, auſſi bien que de faire de nouvelles Levées, quoy qu'il ne paroiſſe aucun Traité entre V. M. & la France qui nous ôte cette liberté; & que d'ailleurs la tendreſſe, que V. M. me fait paroitre, me donnat lieu de me le promettre: Jeſpere qu'elle fera reflection ſur ce que je prens la liberté de luy repteſenter icy, Et quelle ne differera pas d'avantage de m'accorder pour le preſent, ce qu' elle me fait eſperer pour un autre tems. Cependannt je la ſupplie de croire que je ſuis avec un tres profond Reſpect,

Sire,

De vôtre Majeſté le tres humble & tres obeiſſant Neveu & Serviteur,

G. Prince d' Orange.

PS.

PS.

J'AY entretenu fort au long les Ambaſſadeurs de V. M. qui venoient de Cologne, lors qu'ils ont paſſé par la Haye, ſur ce qui regarde la Paix, & n'ay rien a ajouter à tout ce que je leurs ay dit, & dont je ne doute point qu'ils n'ayent fait part à V. M. que de la ſupplier d'y faire une reflection ſerieuſe.

Si je croiois que V. M. deſirât d'être informé de ce qui ſe paſſera icy dans cette Campagne je ne manquerois pas de luy en rendre un conte ; mais comme je ne ſais point en quelle part Elle pourra prendre l'Interêt du parti dans lequel je ſuis, j'attendray ſes ordres ſur cela avant que de l'entreprendre.

Au

A Milord Arlington.

An Camp près de St. Gilain, ce 16 Aout, 1674

Monsieur,

JE ne puis laisser partir Monsieur Sylvius, sans prendre cette occasion de vous assurer de mes services, & de vous prier de me continuer vôtre amitié. Il vous informera de l'état des affaires icy, & j'attendray avec impatience ce que sa Majesté me voudra faire savoir la dessus; Et cependant je vous prie de me croire toujours,

Monsieur,

Vôtre tres Affectioné Serviteur,

G. Prince d'Orange.

Au

Au Chevalier Gab. Sylvius.

A Camp de Oliverovin, 1 Sept. 1674.

JE vous ſuis tres obligé de ce que vous m'avez communiqué la Lettre de Milord Arlington, la quelle e jvous renvoye icy jointe Et vous prie de luy témoigner de nouvelles marques de mon amitié, avec la paſſion que j'ay à le ſervir, & l'obligation que je luy auray de me mettre bien dans l'Eſprit du Roy. Je vous en auray auſſi beaucoup, ſi vous êtez bien perſuadé de mon amitié, & de l'envie que j'ay de vous ſervir.

G. Prince d'Orange.

A Milord Arlington.

An Camp pres de St. Gilain, ce 20 Aout, 1674

Monsieur,

JE ne puis laisser partir Monsieur Sylvius, sans prendre cette occasion de vous assurer de mes services, & de vous prier de me continuer vôtre amitié. Il vous informera de l'état des affaires icy, & j'attendray avec impatience ce que sa Majesté me voudra faire savoir la dessus; Et cependant je vous prie de me croire toujours,

Monsieur,

Vôtre tres Affectioné Serviteur,

G. Prince d'Orange.

Au

Au Chevalier Gab. Sylvius.

A Camp de Oliverovin, 1 Sept. 1674.

JE vous ſuis tres obligé de ce que vous m'avez communiqué la Lettre de Milord Arlington, la quelle e jvous renvoye icy jointe Et vous prie de luy témoigner de nouvelles marques de mon amitié, avec la paſſion que j'ay à le ſervir, & l'obligation que je luy auray de me mettre bien dans l'Eſprit du Roy. Je vous en auray auſſi beaucoup, ſi vous êtez bien perſuadé de mon amitié, & de l'envie que j'ay de vous ſervir.

G. Prince d'Orange.

A Milord Arlington.

An Camp de Quiverovin, 10 Sept. 1674

Monſieur,

VOUS m'aſſeurez d'une maniere ſi obligeante de la part que vous prenez en ce que me touche, que je crois devoir vous en témoigner ma reconnoiſſance; j'ay tres peu merité les Louanges que vous me donnez, & je ſouhaite tres fort d'être aſſez heureux de vous pouvoir ſervir, je le ferois avec beaucoup de plaiſir. Je vous auray auſſi une tres grande Obligation, ſi vous avez la bonté de me mettre bien dans l'Eſprit du Roy, qui eſt une des choſes du

monde que je ſouhaite le plus, & de vous faire connôitre combien je ſuis.

Monſieur,

Votre tres Affectioné Serviteur.

G. Prince d' Orange

A Milord Arlington.

Du Camp de Quievrain le 5 Sep. 1674.

J'ay receu, Monſieur, celle qn'il vous a pleu de m'écrire, & ſuis ravi que vous me donniez occaſion de vous témoigner combien vôtre recommandation m'eſt chere; Et ainſy quoy que la maniere dont Monſieur de Blagny vient au cœur du pais au plus fort de la guerre, a pres avoir viſité nos fortreſſes a la faveur de l' Ambaſſadeur de Suede qu'il reclamoit, meritat toute autre choſe qu'vn élargiſſement, & que dans la riguer il deût attendre ce que les Loix decernent contre des Ennemis qui jouent un Perſonnage emprunté, & qui ſe hazardent de venir ſous vn caractere different de celuy qu'ils ont veritablement: Cependant

pendant, puis que vous vous intereſſez en ſa faveur, & que vous demandez ſa liberte, je vous promets d'employer tout mon credit pour en faire vn échange avec quelques uns de nos Priſonniers de guerre, que les Francois ont fait dans la derniere bataille; Et je croy que veu la grande difference qui eſt entre leur Priſon, le moins que je puis demander, eſt, de le changer avec Monſieur le Comte de Solins Colonel de mes Gardes, & le Sieur de Croneman ſon Lieutenant Colonel, qui tous deux pourroient étre relaſchez en payant la Rancon qui a été reglée avec les Francois avant la Campagne. Je ne doute point que vous ne reconnoiſſiez que ce que je vous propoſe eſt plus que raiſonnable, Et qu'ainſy, puis que vous vous intereſſez a la liberte & a la conſervation de Monſieur de Blagny, vous employerez vôtre credit a la Cour de France,

pour leur faire connoître que leur interêt eſt de ſauver un Brigadier qui eſt Priſonnier d'Eſtat, & que l'on conſent d'échanger pour deux Priſonniers de guerre.

Au reſte avant que de finir j'ay à vous rendre graces de la bonté que vous temoignez avoir pour moy, & quoy que je n'aye rien fait que fort au deſſous de ce que j'aurois ſouhaité, je ne vous ſuis pas moins obligé des marques de vôtre affection, & je vous ſupplie de croire que perſonne ne ſt plus veritablement que moy,

Vôtre tres Humble Serviteur.

G. Prince d'Orange.

Son

Son alteſſe le Prince d' Orange au Roy d' Angleterre.

A la Haye ce 11 Jan. 1674.

Sire,

C'Eſt avec une extrême joye que j'ay apris tout ce que vôtre Majeſté a eu la bonté d' ordonner a Mrs. les Comtes d' Oſſory & d' Arlington, de me dire de ſa part, conformement a la Lettre de Creance qu'ils m'ont delivrée, au ſujêt de l'amitié & eſtime que V. Majeſté daigne me têmoigner, & du defir qu'elle a que toutes les meſintelligences qui pourroient étre ſurvenues pendant la derniere guerre puiſſent être éoignées pour toujours; je les ay aſſeurer que de mon côté je tacheray a y contribuer en tout ce qui ſera en

mon pouvoir,& que mon plus grand ſoin ſera de conſerver cette amitié, dont V. Majeſté me fait la grace de m'aſſurer, & que je n'épargneray ny ma vie ny ma fortune pour la meriter. De plus j'ay declaré à Meſſieurs les Comtes d'Oſſory & d'Arlington, que je ſuis & ſeray toujours diſpoſé a faire ſavoir à V. Majeſté tout ce que je pourray apprendre de mauvais deſſeins & pratiques ſiniſtres que ſes enemis pourront concevoir contre ſa Perſonne ou contre le repos de ſes Royaumes: a preſent je la puis aſſeurer que je n'en ay aucune connoiſſance,mais ſi j'en puis apprendre quelque choſe a l'avenir, je ne manqueray pas tout auſſi tôt de l'en informer exactement. En échange je ſupplie V. Majeſté de me faire la grace de me donner quelques Marques reelles de ſon amitié tant à Moy qu' à Meſſieurs les Eſtas, dont

les

les Interêts a preſent ſont inſeparables des miens, ſur quel ſujet je me ſuis expliqué au long à ces Meſſieurs, qui en feront ſans doute un fidel rapport a V. Majeſté de tout ce qui s'eſt paſſé dans les Conferences que j'ay eu ês avec eux, ayantune entiere Confiance en leurs Perſones. Je rens auſſi tres humbles graces a V. Majeſté du choix qu'elle en a fait preferablement a tous autres, étant des perſonnes tres propres & tres capables établir non ſeulement une ſincere mais auſſi une ferme & indiſſoluble Intelligence, comme V. Majeſté le deſire, dans ſa famille Royale. Detoutes ces proteſtations j'auroisſouhaité paſſionement d'en avoir peu donner des aſſurances en perſonne à V. Majeſté, & quil eſt dans ſon pouvoir de faire la Paix aux parties intereſſées, ou de les laiſſer continuer la guerre; & de tout cecy je la ſup-

plie d'être entierement perſuadée & que je ſuis & ſeray toute ma vie avec un tres profond Reſpect,

Sire,

De vôtre Majeſté le tres humble, & tres obeiſſant Neveu & Serviteur,

G. Prince d'Orange.

A Zuylesteyn, 3 Feb. 1675.

N'Etant point a la Haye, il m'est impossible de vous rêpondre aux Lettres, que vous avez pris la peine de m'êcrire, si exactement que je le souhaiterois. J'ay bien receu, les vôtres du 22 & 28 du mois passé, par les quelles J'ay êté tres aise d'apprendre que vous avez eu un heureux Voyage. Et que sa Majesté a temoigné être satisfaite de la Lettre que j'ay eu l'honneur de luy ècrire; mais je suis étonné que vous me dites que Messieurs les Estats & Moy sommes en possession de quelques Ouvertures touchant la paix, que le Roy tres Chrêtien nous auroit faite. Je vous puis assurer que nous n'en avons aucune connoissance. Et que pour moy dans mon particulier,

lier, Je ne veux rien entendre qu'apres que le parti dans lequel je ſuis, ſoit content. & puis, je prendray la liberté d'informer ſa Majeſté de mes Interêts particuliers, ne doutant point qu'il n'aura la bonté d'en avoir ſoin. je ne puis pas voir que l'avantage que Monſieur de Turenne a eu en Allemagne puiſſe empêcher que les Alliez n'ayent d'auſſi bonnes conditions de paix, qu'ils auroient eu autrement, puis qu'il n'a pas été ſi grand que l'on ſe l'imagine, au moins l'on n'a rien perdu que la certitude de faire beaucop de mal à la France, que l'on eſpere pouvoir encore faire la Campagne qui vient ſi la Guerre continue: Ce que je ne veux point eſperer. pour moy je ſeray toujours prêt à faire mon poſſible pour perſuader nos Alliez d'accepter des conditions de paix honêtes & raiſonables Mais il faut que je vous avoue que vous ne m'avez pas ſatisfait dans

vôtre

ôtre Rêponſe a la demande que je vous ay fait, ſi le Roy aſſiſteroit la Suede, puis que vous me ditez ſeulement que l'on ne prepare rien pour cela ; mais pas, que l'on ne preparera rien. Et comme vous me têmoignez que ma franchiſe n'eſt point deſagreable, j'eſpere que la nouvelle Inſtance que je fais d'être plus éclairci ſur cette affaire ne le ſera par auſſi.

G. Prince d' Orange.

Au Chevalier Will. Temple.

A Arnheim ce 18 Fevrier, 1675

Monſieur,

JE ne receu qu'hier celle qu'il vous a pleu de m'écrire du 13. par laquelle j'ai été marri d'apprendre que la France a refuſé la ville de Meurs pour le lieu de Congres, ce qui fait aſſez voir a tout le monde que leur envie pour la paix ne conſiſte qu'en paroles & point dans les Effets. Je ne crois, pas que Meſſieurs les Eſtats & bien moins leurs Alliez pourront accepter la ville d'Arnheim ou Nimegue, puis que les mêmes raiſons pour-leſquelles n'ont peu accepter Breda, concourent dans les ſuſdites deux Villes. Je ne vous repeterai pas les dites raiſons, puis que Monſieur le Pen-

Penſionaire & moy vous avons ſi ſouvent entretenu ſur ce ſujet. Je ne ſai ce que Meſſieurs les Eſtats reſoudront ſur cette affaire, mais ſans doute Ils demeureront ſur la propoſition qu'ils ont faite de quelque ville en Suiſſe: Mais pour vous témoigner l'envie que j'ai que les affaires de la paix s'avancent, & pour faire voir clairement à tout le monde que la France ne la veut pas, au moins telle qu'avec honneur nous puiſſions l'accepter, J'eſpere pouvoir porter Meſſieurs les Eſtats & leurs Alliez à tomber d'accord de la ville de Grole, qui eſt dans la Province de Gueldre, & a huit lieues d'ici, pour le lieu de Congrés, ou bien la ville de L'Ecluſe en Flandres appartenant à Meſſieurs les Eſtats. Il y a bien une autre ville que Je pourrois auſſi propoſer qui eſt Veritablement ſous l'Empire. Mais plus portée pour les Interêts du Roy de France que de l'Empereur,

reur, qui eſt Liege, que ſeroit Aſſeurement fort propre pour vne telle Aſſemblee. Enfin je ne vois pas d'autre lieu qu'vn de ces trois, ſi ce n'eſt dans la Suiſſe dont toutes les parties intereſſées puiſſent s'accorder. Si ſa Majeſté goûte cette Propoſition, Je feray mon poſſible d'y porter Meſſieurs les Eſtats & leurs Alliez, ſurquoy J'attendrai avec Impatience vôtre Réponſe, & cependant vous prie de me croire toujours.

Monſieur,

Vôtre tres Affectionné Serviteur,

G. Prince d' Orange.

A Milord Arlington.

A Arnheim, 20 Fevr. 1675.

Monsieur,

J'ay été bien marri d'apprendre vôtre Indisposition par la Lettre que vous avez pris la peine de m'écrire du 12 de ce mois. J'espere que cellecy vous trouvera sur pied, & que vous me ferez bientôt savoir quelque bonne Proposition de Paix, que Monsieur de Ruvigny aura faite apres quoy je languis fort, & vous asseure que je suis de même Sentiment que lors que je vous ay quitté, & fort ravi d'apprendre que le Roy n'assistera pas la Suede, mais fort marri de ce que les Gens prennent plaisir de vous écrire d'icy des fausetez. Je n'ay point repris du Moulin dans mon service ; mais il est vrai

vrai que je luy ay parlé depuis vôtre depart de ce Pais, ce que jay êté obligé de faire, pour ajuſter quelques Affaires, & reprendre des Papiers qu' il avoit entre ſes mains quand' il êtoit avec moy avant que vous fuſſiez icy; Mais je vous prie d'être aſſeuré que je tiendray ma parole ſur ce que je vous ay Promis a ſon ſujet, comme ſur tout autre, & particulierement je tacheray a vous faire voir tou jours Combien je ſuis,

Vôtre tres Affectioné Serviteur,

G. Prince d' Orange.

Au

Au Chevalier Gab. Sylvius.

A la Haye 15 Mar. 1675.

VOTRE derniere Lettre a été du 6 de ce mois, par laquelle J'ay apris avec de l'étonnement que l'on n'eſt pas bien ſatisfait que je n'ay pas fait un Compliment à Monſieur le Duc, ſur la Naiſſance de ſa fille; je vous aſſeure qu'il ne m'en a pas plûtôt averti (ce qui a été d'abord apres qu'elle fut née) que je luy ay écrit par la Premiere Ordinaire qui partoit pour l'en feliciter; & Monſieur le Grand Treſaurier ne m'êut pas plûtôt averti de la bonté que ſa Majeſte eut de m'aſſigner ma dette icy que j'écrivis au Roy pour luy en rendre mes tres humbles remercimens, & envoyay la Lettre au Grand Treſaurier, parce que

c'étoit luy qui me donnoit cognoiſſance de la favorable Reſolution que ſa Majeſté avoit priſe.

J'ay auſſi écrit au Roy pour Luy rendre Graces de s'être mêlé de l'Affaire de Gueldre; vous voiez par cette narration conforme a la verité, que c'eſt le plaiſir que mes Ennemis ont de chercher de faux pretextes pour blamer ma Conduite, qui leur fait faire de tels contes, a quoy il n'y a point d'autre remedie, que d'avoir Patience.

G. Prince d' Orange.

A Milord Arlington.

Au Camp de Düffle 5 Juin 1675.

Monsieur,

J'AY eté fort aisé de voir par celle qu'il vous a pleu m'ecrire du 17 du mois passé, (que je n'ay receu il n'y a que trois jours) que nôtre Querelle est finie. Je vous asseure que j'en ay une tres grande joye, & que J'espere, qu'a l'avenir, il n'arrivera rien qui puisse interrompre l'amitié que nous nous sommes reciproquement promise; de mon côte je tacheray de vous faire voir que je ne souhaite rien plus que d'avoir des Oc-

caſions pour vous têmoigner par les Effets combien Veritablement je ſuis,

Monſieur,

Vôtre tres Affectionné Serviteur,

G. Prince d' Orange.

PS.

PS.

JE vous prie que nos Complimens finiſſent avec nôtre querelle, & quand vous voudrez prendre la peine de m'ecrire, d' addreſſer vos Lettres a Bulſtrode a Bruſſelles, qui aura ſoin de mes les faire tenir avec plus de Diligence, que par la Haye.

A Milord Arlington.

Au Camp de Laisan, 26 Sept. 1675.

Monsieur,

CE m'est une Joye tres grande de voir par celle que vous avez pris la peine de m'ecrire, que je suis encore dans vôtre souvenir ; & J'ay êté ravi d'apprendre que vous vous trouvez mieux de l'incommodité que vous avez eue de la Goute. Je n' aurois pas aussi tardé tout ce tems a vous êcrire, s'il se fut passe a nôtre Armée quelque chose qui vallut la piene de vous être mandée : Mais comme nous avons êté tout cet Esté a occuper la grande Armée des Ennemis pour donner jour a nos Alliez d'agir, & que non obstant tout ce que nous avons

vons peu faire, nous n'avons peu les obliger a venir au Combat dans un terrain Egal s'etant toujours mis dans des Postes si avantageux, qu'il a été impossible de les attaquer : nous avons été obligez d'être les patiens, & de voir agir les Armées de nos Alliez. J'espere pourtant qu' avant que la Campaigne s'achevé nous pourrons faire quelque chose, & apres travailler comme il faut a l'avancement d'une bonne Paix ; en quoy je souhaite tres fort que vous puissiez être employé esperant par ce moyen avoir l'honneur de vous voir & vous assurer moy même combien je suis a vous.

G. Prince d' Orange.

A Milord Arlington.

A la Haye le 22. Nov. 1675.

Monſieur,

J'AY attendu juſques a cet'heure a vous rêpondre a la derniere Lettre que vous avez pris la peine de m'ecrire, croiant que Monſieur Sylvius devoit arriver icy tous les jours, ainſi que vous me l'aviez mandé; mais voyant qu'il ne vient pas je n'ay peu differer plus long tems a vous aſſurer de mes Services, & vous demander la raiſon pourquoy ſon Voyage a êtè retardé juſqu' a preſent. Et comme je ſuis encore en doute s'il viendra ou s'il ne viendra point. J'attendray vôtre Reponſe avant que de vous rien dire a l'egard de la Paix, ſouhaittant qu'elle ſe puiſſe

faire au Contentement du Roy, & que je puiſſe avoir beaucoup d'Occaſions pour vous têmoigner par les effets combien je ſuis a vous.

G. Prince d' Orange.

Lettre

A Milord Arlington.

A la Haye 10 April, 1676.

JE ne puis laiſſer partir Monſieur de Sylvius ſans vous renouveller les Aſſeurances de mes Services. Le Porteur vous dira tout ce que s'eſt paſſé icy, & en quel état il y a laiſſé les Affaires. Comme je vais monter a Cheval pour aller au Rendevous de l'Armée vous me pardonnerez bien que je n'adjoute plus a cellecy que de vous aſſeurer que je ſuis autant vôtre Serviteur que Homme du Monde

G. Prince d' Orange.

A Milord Arlington par Monsieur Bentinck.

A Lockeren ce 9 Juin 1677.

Monsieur,

IL y a quelque tems que J'ay veu dans une Lettre que vous avez écrit a Ouwerkerk, que l'on Vous a tres mal informé de mes Sentimens, c'eſt ce qui m'a obligé de charger Bentinck expreſſement de vous en deſabuſer, & vous aſſurer de ma part du contraire, & que je ſuis toujours tres Paſſionement vôtre Serviteur, eſperant auſſi que vous me continuerez vôtre Amitié ;

tie ; la quelle je tacheray a meriter en vous te moignant dans toutes les occaſions que je ſuis entierement a vous.

G. Prince d'Orange.

A Milord Arlington.

Au Lokcren ce 25. Juin. 1677.

Monſieur,

VOUS avez renvoyé un homme ſi ſatisfait de tous les honneurs & civilites que vous luy avez faites que je ne ſay comment il pourra ſe r'acoutumer icy. Je vous en ay une Obligation tres grande, & ſur tout de bons Offices que Vous m'avez rendus aupres du Roy, Je vous aſſure qu'une de plus grandes Paſſions, que J'ay au monde eſt de Luy pouvoir être utile: de mon côté je ne manqueray jamais de le luy temoigner par les Effets, ny auſſi a vous combien

bien j'estime Vôtre amitie ny avec quelle verité Je suis entierement a vous,

G. Prince d'Orange.

Lettre

Lettre de Monſieur le Prince D'Orange a Meſſieurs Les Eſtats e'crite du Camp pres de Sombref le 15t Aouſt 1677.

J. S. S.

AINSY que nous vous avons notifié par nôtre derniere du 9 de ce mois que les avis portoient que les Ennemis avoient paſſé la Sambre a la Buſſiere la nuit du 8 au 9, & s'etoient Venu camper au dela d'un certain Bois entre eux & nous, leur aile droite s'etendant Juſques aux Villages d'Arcos & de Gerpaine, & leur Gauche juſques a Senef, ſ'y téant poſtez, & nous ayant été porte quelques avis comme

me s'ils avoient deſſein de nous venir attâquer ; Nous donnames les Ordres neceſſaires pour les recevoir. Et le jour ſuivant étant allé reconnoitre leur Camp nous avons trouvé, que s'etant poſtez, leur aile Droite tout contre un bois, ayant encore devant eux un Ruiſſeau, (lequel ſelon l'information des Perſones ayant une parfaite Connoiſſance du Pais ne ſe pouvoit paſſer qu' en defilant) nous avons en même tems remarqué qu'il y avoit un Paſſage par lequel on pourroit en quelque maniére s'approcher de l'aile Gauche de l'Ennemi a cauſe qu'elle s'etendoit au dela de la ſource du ſuſdit Ruiſſeau, mais que pour le ponvoir attâquer, il falloit neceſſair ement paſſer un Bois par un Defilé, où l'on ne pouvoit pas faire marcher plus de deux Ecadrons de Front, y ayant a la fortie de ce Defilé ou etroit,

Une

Une conſiderable Hauteur, ſur laquelle l' Ennemy s'étoit gardé, qu'il auroit indubitablemt taçhé de maintenir ſans que l'on peut ſe detourner autour de cette hauteur a cauſe d'un autre Ruiſſeau qui y prenoit ſon Origine.

L'Ennemy étant poſté ſy pres de nous & ſy avantageuſement, l'on a bien generallement jugé impoſſible de continuer le Siege de Charleroy, ſy on ne le faiſoit deloger de là, a cauſe que demeurant dans ce Poſte, il nous empêchoit Abſolument le Fourage entre la Sambre & la Meuſe, ſans lequel La Cavalerie ne pouvoit pas ſubſiſter ; & que par les Detachemens quil feroit paſſer la dite Sambre, il nous pourroit couper les Convoyes de Bruſſelles à l'Armée, ou pour le moins les incommoder extremement, cependant apres que les dits Poſtes & les Situations ont été bien reconnues, l'on eſt entré en

debat s'il ſeroit expedient & poſſible d'âttaquer l' Ennemy étant ainſy poſté a ſon Avantage ; quelques uns ont ſouteun qu'il falloit hazarder cette attaque, ſans pourtant reſoudre les Difficultes qui la faiſoient aſſez impoſſible ; & quelques autres qui ont conſideré les ſuſdits Avantages ont été d'avis qu'en l'entreprenant une defaite étoit fort à apprehender, ſans aucune Apparence debon Succez ; ce qu'ayant jugé de même tant a l'egard du côté que l'Ennemy occupoit, qu'a cauſe de grands Detachemens que nous aurions été obligez de faire pour garder l' Artillerie & le Bagage, & qu'en cas d'une Retraite il ſembloit ne demeurer aucune apparence de la pouvoir faire parce qu' alors les Paſſages de la Sambre auroient été occupez par ceux de Charleroy, nous avons mieux aimé de ſouffrir en quelque maniere en nôtre Reputation, qu'avec

vec ſi peu ou point du tout d' Apparence de pouvoir reuſſir, expoſer l' Armée de l' Eſtat à un Peril ſi Evident, nous ſommes donc decampez de devant Charlé-Roy, & venus nous loger icy, apres avoir fait marcher nôtre Artillerie vers Bruſſelles ainſy que le Bagage de l' Armée.

G. Prince d'Orange.

A Milord Arlington.

Au Camp de Sognies 20 Sept. 1677.

Monſieur,

PUIS que le Roy a eu la bonté de me permettre de venir faire un Tour en Angleterre, j'eſpere d'avoir l'honneur de vous y voir bien tôt, & vous detromper des Impreſſions que Monſieur le Comte d'Oſſory m'a dit qu'on vous a voulu donner de moy, comme ſi je n'êtois pas autant de vous amis & Serviteurs, que je l'ay tousjours été; en peu de têms j'auray la ſatisfaction de vous en aſſurer de bouche, vous priant

ant de me continuer en attendant, vôtre amitié & d'être assuré que je ſnis entierment a vous.

G. Prince d'Orange.

Harangue faite aux Nobles & Puiſſants Seigneurs les Eſtats de Zelande, par ſon Alteſſe Guillaume le Troiſieme Prince d'Orange, A Middleburgh, 19 Sept. 1668.

Nobles & Puiſſant Seigneurs,

NOUS n'auons pu nous deporter plus longtêms de venir preſenter nôtre perſonne, & nôtre Service à Vos Puiſſantes Seigneuries, & particulierement de vous remercier de tous les Honneurs, Faveurs, & Affection, que vos Puiſſantes

iſſantes Seigneuries nous ont toujours depuis nôtre Naiſſance, & baſſe âge juſqu'icy, ſi abondamment monſtrez; & particulierement de nous avoir conferé la qualité de Premier Noble, comme nos illuſtres Predeceſſeurs en cette Province l'ont toujours portée ſelon le decret de vos P. S. du 7 d' Aouſt 1660, que vos P. S. ont manifeſté, non pas ſeulement comme un gage de leur Amour & Affection enuers nous dans les bornes de leur Province, mais auſſi ont effectué, comme un puiſſant Argument pour augmenter la generale inclination la quelle nous avons le bonheur de trouuer envers nôtre perſonne & maiſon dans toutes les Provinces: Vos *P. S.* ayant eu la bonté de la nous y continuer en toute Occaſion par vôtre ſinguliere Affection,& auſſi de nous donner a connoitre en l'an 1666 que vous ſouhaitiez

Cordiallement que le têms fuſt expiré auquel nous puſſions exercer cette qualite de Premier Noble: Et comme le ſuſdit têms eſt maintenant pleinement accompli, puiſqne vos *P. S.* ont trouué bon que telle choſe arrivât, quand nous aurions atteint nôtre dixhuitiéme annee, entrant a preſent dans notre dixneuviéme: nous avons jugé que nous n'aurions pas repondu ny ſatisfait a vôtre deſir & attente, ſi nous euſſions plus long têms tardé à venir jouir & prendre poſſeſſion de ce à quoy il a plû à vos *P. S.* de nous appeller ſi obligeamment comme une gage de leur tres grande & tres ſincere affection enuers nôtre perſonne.

C'eſt donc La Cauſe qui nous incite P. Seigneurs a venir dans cette noble Aſſemblée pour têmoigner i-

cy

cy avec toute reconnoiſſance que nous employerons & mettrons en uſage cette qualité de Premier Noble d'une Affection ſinguliere, & mêmes par Les Deputez que nous nommerons a cette fin, ſelon le ſuſdit decret de vos *P. S.* du 7 d' Août 1660, la Ferons employer & mettre en uſage au plus grand Honneur & proſperité du glorieux Gouvernment de cette Province, & mutuelle harmonie de tous ſes membres, & autant qu'il nous ſera poſſible nous conſerverons & augmenterons la Correſpondence neceſſaire avec tous les Membres, & ſpecialement avec les Provinces d' Hollande & de Weſtfriſe, qui de tout tems ſe ſont tenues avec vos *P. S.* dans une Union & Accord particulier; & d'avantage nous vous aſſurons, que tout ce qu'il y a de plus en notre puiſſance ſera avec toute ſincerite

cerité & zele employé au plus grand ſervice de vos *P. S.* & qu'auſſi nous ſuiverons les illuſtres veſtiges de nos auguſtes Anceſtrees qui ont aidé à mettre les Fondamens de cette glorieuſe Republique, & qui ont toujours agi pour la liberté, & la Religion, & y'âjoutant la tres grande Inclination que nous avons par notre propre mouvement de plaire a voz P. S. en toutes choſes, & de defendre en toutes rencontres leurs juſtes Pretenſions au pres de cette haute aſſemblée. Ainſi pour conclurre nous aſſeurerous vos P. S. que partout nous ferons nôtre devoir pour parvenir à une parfaite connoiſſance de veritables fondemens & maximes du glorieux Governement de vos P. S. et pour nous rendre plus propre a L'âdvancement de ſa proſperité & de ſes Interêts.

Priant

Priant Le Grand Dieu de tout nôtre cœur de continuer & multiplier par ſa Miſericordie ſes Benedictions ſur vôtre glorieux gounervement.

De vos Puiſſantes Seigneuries

Le tres Affectioné Serviteur,

G. Prince d'Orange.

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